

House Resolution No. 1995

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives truly value student exchange programs that foster an increased knowledge and understanding of the world in which we all live as neighbors; and

Whereas, Rock Bridge High School in Columbia, Missouri, and Thomas Morus Gymnasium in Oelde, Germany, have sponsored a student exchange program in which there are currently seventeen German students enjoying the hospitality offered to them by local Missouri families; and

Whereas, led by English language instructor Gerhard Ziegenfuss, this year's German exchange students include Ines Blacha, Lena Ellebracht, Tobias Fenneker, Katarina Fenske, Magda Hake, Larissa Hermeyer, Anastasia Karle, Joern Kleinelanghorst, Carina Niemann, Regina Niesemeyer, Cornelia Oltmann, Michaela Predeick, Kristina Schlotmann, Florian Schulz, Marielen Senger, Eva Ueding, and Thorsten Westermann; and

Whereas, down through the years Gerhard Ziegenfuss has coordinated five exchanges to the city of Columbia, two to Jefferson City, and six additional exchanges to states in the eastern part of the United States; and

Whereas, Deborah Bernhardt is the German language teacher at Rock Bridge High School who has helped to coordinate the alternating groups of German and Missouri students who engage in the potentially life-altering experiences that come with gaining first-hand language, cultural, and educational experiences in overseas lands; and

Whereas, a hands-on, key player in this exchange program, Deborah Bernhardt has taken five groups from Rock Bridge to Germany where the Missouri students visited the historic Westphalia region bordering the Netherlands; and

Whereas, Missouri is a state where many German immigrants impressed their names, culture, foods, and strong work ethic on the foundations of society during the formative period of development in the early years of American history:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar achievements embodied by the student exchange program between Thomas Morus Gymnasium in Oelde, Germany, and Rock Bridge High School in Columbia, Missouri, and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest best wishes for continued personal, academic, and professional success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Thomas Morus Gymnasium/Rock Bridge High School student exchange program.

Offered by _____
Representative Chuck Graham
District No. 24

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1995, adopted April 21, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker